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Executive Registry

18-659/4

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

3331 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

April 13, 1978

Reg

OLC #78-1064/6

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 12, 1978, in reference to the moratorium on the destruction of Agency records, originally invoked by the Church Committee, but lifted by Chairman Inouye of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on December 21, 1977.

I have delayed in responding to your letter in the hope that it might be possible for the Committee to indicate that it has no objection to the resumption of the normal process of document destruction. Unfortunately, I cannot, at this time, give to the Agency an indication that the Committee's review of the Agency's files relevant to our investigation has progressed to the point where it would be no longer appropriate for the Committee to request that the normal document destruction process not resume. I am sure that you will agree with me that for the Agency to begin even normal document destruction could be, at this time, misconstrued by those concerned about the openness and thoroughness of the Committee's investigation. I make this observation without implying in any regard that the Agency has not been cooperative with the Committee.


It might be helpful if Professor Blakey, the Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the Committee, were to sit with appropriate representatives of the Agency to work out a reasonable time frame within which the needs of the Committee - as well as appropriate appearances - can be met, consistent with the Agency's obligations under law. I am sure that Professor Blakey will be

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available at any convenient time to work out, subject to Committee approval, a satisfactory arrangement. You may, of course, have the appropriate person in the Agency get in contact with him directly at 225-9381.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Stokes", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

LOUIS STOKES
Chairman

LS:gbd

	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

OLC

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X (w/ref)		
2	DDCI		X (w/ref)		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	DDS&T				
5	DDI				
6	DDA	X			
7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC		X		
10	LC	X			
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	A/DCI/PA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
20					
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks: To 6: You originated the 12 March letter. Please consult with OLC and OGC. Believe DCI and DDCI would appreciated brief note on where we stand. Does attached void prior SSCI approval?

17 April 1978

Date

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